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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/379,702	08/24/1999	HISASHI OHTANI	07977/093002	1613
20985	7590	09/18/2006	EXAMINER	
FISH & RICHARDSON, PC P.O. BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022			LEE, EUGENE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2815	

DATE MAILED: 09/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
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20060914

DATE MAILED:

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Commissioner for Patents**Acknowledgement of Reply Brief, and Request for an Oral Hearing**

The reply brief and request for an oral hearing, both filed 9/06/06, have been entered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

INFORMATION ON HOW TO CONTACT THE USPTO

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eugene Lee whose telephone number is 571-272-1733. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kenneth Parker can be reached on 571-272-2298. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Eugene Lee
September 14, 2006

EUGENE LEE
PRIMARY EXAMINER